MARVEL COMICS
2099
28
MAY
PUNISHER 2099 A.D.
AGENT OF
SHIELD
DOOM
DIRECT EDITION
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HIS FAMILY WAS MURDERED BY A PSYCHOPATH IN AN AGE WHERE JUSTICE CAN BE BOUGHT AND NO ONE BELIEVES IN OLD-FASHIONED PUNISHMENT ANYMORE... NO ONE EXCEPT JAKE GALLOWS... A WEAPONS SPECIALIST IN THE PUBLIC EYE POLICE FORCE BY DAY, AT NIGHT HE IS INCORRUPTIBLE JUSTICE.
STAN LEE PRESENTS:
THE PUNISHER 2099
IT'S A "RUSH FACTORY..." DECREDS ARE KIDNAPPED OFF THE STREETS...
...AND NOBODY CARES WHAT HAPPENS TO THEM...
...EXCEPT FOR OTHER DECREDS!
AAAUGH!
ALL OF THEIR FEAR... ALL OF THEIR PAIN GOES INTO THE CLIENT.
IT'S THE ULTIMATE HORROR MOVIE--THE ACTING'S SO GOOD, YOU'RE REALLY THERE...
YOU GET THE RUSH... THE FEAR...THE ADRENALINE...BUT YOU GET NO REAL PAIN... AND YOUR BODY'S INTACT...
...PITY ABOUT THE VICTIMS...BUT THEY'RE ONLY DECREDS.

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KREAK!
SOMEONE OUTSIDE!
WHO'S THERE?
PUNISHMENT POLICE!
WHO?
PUNISHMENT POLICE!
POWER BAT TO MAXIMUM SETTING! YOU'RE NOT WALKING AWAY FROM THIS ONE, SCUM!
AH! I'VE HEARD ABOUT THESE CHANGES... WELL, I DON'T CARE WHETHER YOU'RE "PUNISHMENT POLICE" OR PUBLIC EYE, A BLACK CARD BUYS YOU ALL!
I SHOULD BE OUT OF HERE IN FIVE MINUTES!

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DID YOU ARRANGE FOR THESE DECREPS TO BE KIDNAPPED AND TORTURED?
THAT'S RIDICULOUS! OF COURSE NOT.
LIE
ARE YOU FRIGHTENED OF ME?
YES! YES!
TRUE
THAT LAST QUESTION WAS JUST CHECKING THE SYSTEM.
OKAY... OKAY... BUT I'VE STILL GOT RIGHTS! YOU CAN'T USE THAT RIDICULOUS LIE DETECTOR IN A COURT OF LAW.

THERE'S NO MORE COURTS... NO MORE "LAW" FOR YOU TO HIDE BEHIND...
ONLY JUSTICE... AND PUNISHMENT!
ARE THE PEOPLE ASSEMBLED?
YES, SIR. WE'VE GOT THE RESIDENTS OUT OF THEIR APARTMENTS AND ONTO THE STREET. YOU'LL HAVE A BIG AUDIENCE.
WHAT...WHAT ARE YOU DOING? AUDIENCE FOR WHAT?
I'M TAKING JUSTICE ONTO THE STREETS..
DOING WHAT THE PUBLIC EYE SHOULD HAVE DONE FROM THE BEGINNING...
I'M GOING TO SHOOT YOU LIKE A DOG...
I WANT EVERYONE TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO SCUM LIKE YOU!

CLEAN-UP SQUAD WILL TAKE CARE OF THE CORPSES...
WHERE NEXT, SIR?
MANHATTAN-T, THE BUSINESS DISTRICT...
I WAS NEVER ABLE TO REACH THE MOB LAWYERS WHEN I WAS THE LONE PUNISHER...
THEY WERE TOO HEAVILY PROTECTED BY THE OLD PUBLIC EYE COPS.
NOT ANYMORE.
JAKE'S DREAM--EVERYONE ELSE'S NIGHTMARE--HAS FINALLY COME TRUE..
WE INTERRUPT "IN THE COURTS TODAY" WITH AN IMPORTANT NEWS BULLETIN...
AN UPDATE ON THE DOOM TAKEOVER.. WE'VE JUST HEARD THAT IT IS OFFICIAL...
DOOM HAS BEEN SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT OF THE NEWLY REFORMED UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
"AND NOW WE'RE GOING OVER LIVE TO THE WHITE HOUSE FOR A PRESIDENTIAL BROADCAST..."

"... FROM PRESIDENT DOOM."
PEOPLE OF AMERICA, I SPEAK TO YOU AS YOUR PRESIDENT DIRECT FROM THE WHITE HOUSE...
THE RULE OF THE CORRUPT CORPORATIONS IS OVER...DEMOCRACY HAS BEEN RE-ESTABLISHED UNDER MY BENIGN SUPERVISION...
AMONG THE MANY CHANGES YOU WILL SOON WITNESS WILL BE A NEW, HONEST AND EFFECTIVE POLICE FORCE WHICH I WILL CALL... SHIELD--
--IN HONOR OF THAT PAST AND GREAT ORGANIZATION.
I PROMISE YOU, SHIELD WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE...STAND WITH ME TOGETHER... IN...
ONE NATION UNDER DOOM!

SHOCK! THIS DOESN'T LOOK GOOD... AND I'M ONLY SIX MONTHS FROM RETIREMENT!
YEAH... THEY'LL PROBABLY HAVE YOU CLEANING THE REST-ROOMS, CHIEF.
I HAVE NO PRIDE... THEY CAN PROMOTE ME UPWARDS, DOWNWARDS OR SIDEWAYS...
SURE-- I'LL BE VICE-PRESIDENT IN CHARGE OF LATRINES...
JUST AS LONG AS I GET MY PENSION!
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO COME TO THAT... MAYBE WE CAN IMPRESS THIS GUY, DOOM...
YOU DON'T IMPRESS PEOPLE LIKE DOOM. BESIDES WHICH... THE MAN IS RIGHT... YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL...
...THE PUBLIC EYE SUCKS!
I WONDER IF THERE'S ANY WAY WE COULD GET JOBS IN THIS NEW FORCE... SHIELD?
HEY, MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT... MAYBE THEY REALLY NEED GUYS WHO SIT ON THE CORNERS OF DESKS DRINKING COFFEE AND DISCUSSING GRAV-BALL ALL DAY!
YOU CAN TALK... YOU'VE BEEN ON THE PUNISHER CASE FOR TWO YEARS-- AND HE'S STILL OUT THERE... GUNNING DOWN SOME OF NEW YORK'S SHADIER CITIZENS.
HEY! THAT'S IT! THAT'S IT!

LET ME RUN THIS PAST YOU, JAKE... WE FIND SOME STREET PUNK, DRESS HIM UP AS THE PUNISHER, SHOOT HIM WHILE HE'S TRYING TO ESCAPE...
...AND PRESENT HIS BODY TO DOOM!
THAT WOULD REALLY IMPRESS OUR NEW BOSS!
I-I TRULY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY, CHIEF. THAT IDEA WAS VERY...
YOU.
COULD LOOK GOOD ON YOUR RECORD, JAKE... YOU KNOW--" JAKE GALLOWS FINALLY CATCHES THE PUNISHER"
FOR JAKE GALLOWS IS ... THE PUNISHER!
WHAT...?
JAKE GALLOWS WILL NEVER CATCH THE PUNISHER...
UUUH?

WHAT...? WELL-- UH--YOU ARE THE PRESIDENT, SIR...
JAKE GALLOWS, YOU ARE UNDER ARREST FOR--UM-- BEING THE PUNISHER!
TAKE OFFICER GALLOWS AWAY, PUT HIM IN A MAXIMUM SECURITY HOLDING CELL!
LOOK... MENEN...TAMOFF... DO THE SMART THING—JUST WALK AWAY UNTIL THIS IS ALL SORTED OUT!
CAN'T DO THAT, MR. GALLOWS. NOW [redacted] CAN DO THIS EASY OR HARD. IT'S YOUR CHOICE.
THIS IS MY CHOICE!

YOU DIRTBAG, DOOM! WE WORKED TOGETHER TO SAVE THIS CITY... AND YOU REPAY ME BY BLOWING MY IDENTITY!
SWEET THOR! IT'S TRUE... YOU REALLY ARE THE PUNISHER!
YES-- REALLY IS... WHICH BRINGS TO WHY I TELEPORTED HERE...
FOR TOO LONG THE PUBLIC EYE HAS BEEN A NEST OF CORRUPTION AND SLOTH, RUN BY BROWN-NOSED YES MEN...
YES, YES, YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT, . PRESIDENT, SIR. MY TEAM HAS BEEN TRYING TO TACKLE THIS VERY PROBLEM--
SHUT UP. SO AM REPLACING PUBLIC WITH SHIELD. HEAD WILL BE MAN WHO HAS PROVEN HIMSELF TO RUTHLESS AND UNCORRUPTIBLE...
THE PUNISHER!
KNOW YOU, DOOM... YOU'RE SERIOUS. BUT I'M NO DESK-JOCKEY. I WANT TO BE OUT THERE MAKING A DIFFERENCE.
I'LL HEAD FOR YOU, BUT I WANT MY OWN PERSONAL FORCE...AN ELITE HAND-PICKED SQUAD--MEN WHO ARE DRIVEN, LIKE ME.
WHY NOT? WITH A UNIFORM THE PUBLIC CAN RECOGNIZE AND FEAR...
THE PUNISHER.

FOUR WEEKS LATER, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CITY. JILLIAN WONG ■ ANGRY...
SHE ■ ALWAYS ■ RIGHT NOW, SHE'S WATCHING ■ WITH HER FAMILY...
...THE PUNISHER HIMSELF HAS ANNOUNCED A CITY-WIDE CURFEW EVERY NIGHT UNTIL-- AND WE QUOTE--"THE SCUM HAS BEEN WIPED OFF THE STREETS FOR GOOD".
OH DEAR. THAT IT SHOULD COME TO THIS... NEW YORK A POLICE STATE!
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN A POLICE STATE--BUT NOW AT LEAST THEY'RE EFFECTIVE!
THE PUNISHER KNOWS HOW TO GET THINGS DONE.
BUT THE PUNISHER WAS A TERRORIST, DEAR.
LAST NIGHT, SIX MORE PROMINENT CRIME FIGURES WERE TAKEN FROM THEIR HOMES AND EXECUTED BY THE PUNISHMENT POLICE...
OH, RIGHT, MOM...
■ WHEN THOSE BLACK-CARD BIKERS WERE TERRORIZING OUR NEIGHBORHOOD, ■ IT THE PUBLIC EYE WHO DEALT WITH THEM? ■ THE TERRORIST PUNISHER!
WOULD YOU STILL HAVE CALLED HIM A TERRORIST IF THEY'D DONE TO ■ WHAT THEY DID TO SAMANTHA GARRET? YEAH! YOU PROBABLY WOULD!
NOW, "BEANPOLE", THAT'S NO WAY TO TALK TO YOUR MOTHER. ■ WORKED HARD TO ■T OUR PARENT PERMIT. IS THIS HOW YOU REWARD US?

EXACTLY, JILL, SO WHY DON'T YOU GET A [redacted] LAW-- INSTEAD OF WATCHING HOLO ALL DAY?
[redacted] THE LAW [redacted] USELESS! THE PUNISHER'S RIGHT! [redacted] NEED JUSTICE AND PUNISHMENT FOR THE GUILTY!
AND [redacted] THE WAY... JYM... MY NAME ISN'T "BEANPOLE". [redacted] IF YOU'VE BOTH FINISHED LECTURING ME, I'D LIKE TO WATCH HOLO, IT'S MY ONLY CONNECTION TO THE REAL WORLD.
THERE NOW FOLLOWS A COMPULSORY POLICE BROADCAST. [redacted] REMINDED THAT TO SWITCH OFF NOW IS ILLEGAL.
PEOPLE [redacted] NEW YORK, I KNOW THESE [redacted] DIFFICULT TIMES... BUT BEAR WITH ME, WE'RE ALL WORKING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW.
ONLY THE GUILTY NEED FEAR ME.
TO HELP [redacted] IN MY WORK, SHIELD NEEDS STRONG, IDEALISTIC YOUNG MEN AND [redacted] IN ITS RANKS.
IF, LIKE ME, [redacted] FEEL YOU HAVEN'T FITTED IN WITH THE OLD CORPORATE AMERICA, COME FORWARD NOW. I PROMISE YOU, TOGETHER WE WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
THIS IS IT! THIS IS FOR ME, MOM, DAD... I'VE JUST SEEN MY FUTURE CAREER...
I'M JOINING SHIELD... I'M GOING TO BE A PUNISHER!

YOU'RE A GENIUS, JERV.. HOW DID YOU GET US OFF ?
SIMPLE. BY THE IMAGINATIVE USE OF THE LAW. THE PUBLIC EYE HAD THE EVIDENCE-- BUT THEY HADN'T FOLLOWED THE CORRECT PROCEDURE.
..SO IT WAS EASY TO GET THE CASE THROWN OUT.
..THE ONLY CONSEQUENCES YOU'LL SUFFER IS MY FEE.
NO PROBLEM, JERV. AS AGREED, YOU GET TEN PERCENT OF OUR TOTAL HAUL.
WE CYBER-NOSTRA KEEP OUR PROMISES.
PUNISHMENT POLICE!!

YOU'LL HAVE TO BACK OFF, PUNISHER! MY CLIENTS HAVE HAD ALL CHARGES AGAINST THEM DROPPED.
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR CLIENTS, JERY, AT LEAST NOT YET! I'M HERE FOR YOU!
THE LAW'S BEEN CHANGED! IF A LAWYER DEFENDS A CYBER-NOSTRA, HE IS GUILTY OF AIDING AND ABETTING A KNOWN CRIMINAL.
THE BIGGEST LOOPHOLE IN THE LAW IS THE LAWYER. I'M [redacted] TO CLOSE THE LOOP.
[redacted] THE POWER INVESTED IN [redacted] BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, YOU [redacted] HEREBY SENTENCED TO DEATH... EXECUTION IMMEDIATE!
YOU TWO-- TAKE HIM DOWN... AND I WAIVE MY TEN PER-CENT!
HEY, TRY THESE ARMOR-PIERCERS, PUN!

AAAAGH!
I GOT HI-TECH BULLETS, TOO, FUNKS..
GUESS WHAT THESE DO?
THUNK
THUNK
WHUMP!
BTHOOM!
YOU GOT IT.. HIGH-EX!

VERY IMPRESSIVE--BUT DO YOU REALLY THINK A MAN IN MY PROFESSION IS GOING TO JUST SIT HERE [redacted] BE SHOT?
EVERY LAWYER HAS A PLAN "B".
PTANG PTANG
CORRECT...IMPENETRABLE FLOOR TO CEILING FORCE SHIELD.
NOW LET'S GET REAL. I'VE SEEN YOU ON THE HOLO: "GONNA BRING ALL THE BAD GUYS DOWN"...
...BUT I DON'T BUY IT. EVERYONE IS FOR SALE. WHAT'S *YOUR* PRICE, PUNISHER?
YOU'RE RIGHT...I *HAVE* GOT A PRICE. THERE IS SOMETHING THAT WILL MAKE [redacted] GO AWAY.

YOUR DEATH!
Nooooo
ANOTHER CRIMINAL PUNISHED, BUT NOW I DON'T HAVE TO LISTEN OUT FOR THE POLICE SIRENS... I AM THE POLICE!
IT'S BEYOND MY WILDEST DREAMS. I COULD JUST KEEP DOING THIS FOREVER. MATT AXEL AND I HAVE FINALLY ACHIEVED WHAT WE SET OUT TO DO.

DEGEN HOSTEL
ALL WELCOME
YOU TRAITOR, JAKE GALLOWS!
YOU'VE SOLD OUT... YOU'RE TOEING THE CORPORATE LINE... GOING FOR THE GOLD WATCH AND THE HAND SHAKE...
HOW LONG BEFORE YOU START SHOOTING DEGENS AND BEING SEEN AT THE RIGHT PARTIES... DOOM GIVE YOU A BLACK CARD, DID HE, JAKE?
YEAH... WELL, YOU AND ME ARE OVER... YOU'RE NO LONGER THE REAL PUNISHER...
I NEED SOMEONE WHO WON'T LET ME DOWN...
SOMEONE WHO I CAN CONTROL...
PUNISHER-- AUTO-ASSEMBLE...

SOMEONE WHO KNOWS AS MUCH ABOUT CRIME AND PUNISHMENT AS YOU DO, JAKE...
BUT THIS ONE WILL BE TRULY INCORRUPTIBLE.
ENGAGE
I'VE TAKEN THE GOLDHEART CHIP--THE SOUL OF THE ROBOT-- FROM JAKE'S BIKE...
...AND COMBINED IT WITH THE PHYSIQUE OF A BATTLE ROBOT AND ADDED A FEW DEADLY PROGRAMS OF MY OWN!
" HIS COVERING IS TWICE AS HARD AS PLAS-STEEL... "

...I DON'T NEED YOU ANY LONGER, JAKE...
I'VE JUST MADE... THE REAL PUNISHER!